**How Has Music Influenced History?**

**I once heard a student say that “Music defines me”. So, what is it about music that is so important?**

**There is a very wide array of musical genres today, each at one point being more popular than others. But, like most things in history the development of music has occurred over time. So, what is it about certain music that becomes, or defines, an era?**

**As a class, you are going to take time to discuss and investigate the development of music, and what it says to a generation. Most importantly you will form an opinion on this question:**

**Has music ‘created’ history or is music a result of history?**

**PROJECT:**

You will work with a partner to decide who you think has had a major influence on music in the last 100 years. You must complete the following:

1. Pick an artist or band.

\*\*Because there will be some competition over artists/bands, each team must research a different person or band. There can be no repeats. This will be decided within the first 10 minutes of class. Your team should come up with several options in case your person is ‘taken’ first.

1. Write a thesis statement that explains the influence your artist or band had on music and history. Through your presentation you must support this thesis.
2. Find a song that demonstrates your artist or bands influence. Print the lyrics.
3. You will need to play the song for the class, give them a copy of the lyrics, and explain to them why you think this band or artist had a major influence on music. Then, you must explain how this band or artist affected history.
4. You will be graded based on the attached rubric.

**Requirements:**

**You must submit:**

1. Thesis statement
2. Lyrics

**Your presentation must be about proving your thesis. Your presentation must do the following:**

1. Be an organized explanation of your team answer to the question: has music ‘created’ history or is it a result of history.
2. Play a song from your artist or band to give support to your answer.
3. Distribute the lyrics from the song that will further support your answer.
4. Each team member must participate in the presentation.

**Additional details:**

* Each team will be given one week to complete this assignment and then must **submit to me the thesis statement and the lyrics. DUE: Monday, February 1, 2010**
* **I will schedule a list of assigned presentation dates**. This will be up and posted on **Tuesday, January 26, 2010.** Your team WILL present on the assigned day or receive a zero. If there is a reason that you know in advance you will not be in class on your presentation date, you may switch with another team and both teams need to let me know before **Friday, January 29, 2010. Presentations will begin on Monday, February 1, 2010.**
* **I would encourage all teams to do a test run of their music prior to their presentation date, as technological failure will result in a 0 for the audio/video section of the presentation grade.**